The Bride of Adarshan

Chapter 3 & Omake

A Joint project of Aerandria & StarryHeaven

scanner Lacaille

Translator Aura

PR Bea and Asahina

Cleaner Eye

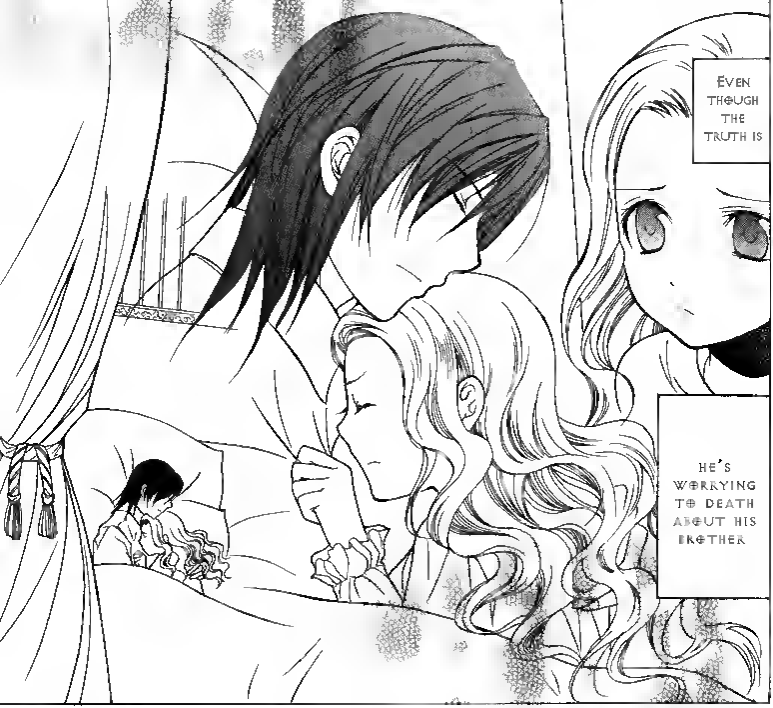
Typesetter kat

QC Cheebs & star_light

http://aerandria.net
http://z3.invisionfree.com/Starry_Heaven/index.php

Chapter 8
The Coming Spring

THIS IS A BIT BORING.
I'M JUST ABOUT DONE PLAYING ALL THE GAMES YOU CAN PLAY BY YOURSELF
THANKS TO ALL THE RUMORS IN THE CASTLE I KNOW THAT THE KING YUUZE RICKS HAS FALLEN ILL BUT...
EVEN IF I ASK ABOUT IT...
"It's all right—"
...IS ALL HE SAYS.
HE'S ALWAYS BEEN LIKE THAT.
IT'S AS THOUGH HE'S SAYING WHAT HE HIMSELF WANTS TO HEAR


EVEN THOUGH THE TRUTH IS
HE'S WORRYING TO DEATH ABOUT HIS BROTHER

SCRAPE
Neither Alec nor Fred will tell me anything important!
I'm WORRIED ABOUT BROTHER, TOO...
ALEC HAS RECENTLY BEEN BUSY DAY AND NIGHT...

CLENCH
That's right I'm not bored because there's nothing for me to do
I just feel down
because those adults always look so troubled
But I'm also worried about Sister, whose husband has fallen ill.
THAT'S WHY FOR JUST A LITTLE...
I'll show up for just a little...
I'm sure Sister will want something to get her mind off of things...
OH, LONG TIME NO SEE, IMPERIAL PRINCESS

WHAM
WHAM
N-NO! STOP THAT! WHAT ARE YOU DOING!
HOW ABOUT YOU, WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
IS THERE A REASON I SHOULD SAY?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN FRONT OF SISTER'S ROOM?
AH, HOW UNUSUAL TO SEE THE TWO OF YOU TOGETHER!
WHAT'S WRONG WITH CALLING YOUR SISTER YOUR SISTER!
HOLD ON! DON'T TALK ABOUT SISTER WITH SUCH OVER-FAMILIARITY!*
DIDN'T YOU COME TO MEET SISTER?
SISTER!
SISTER!

T/N Fauna refers to the Queen with a more formal designation for "Sister" than Euti does (More specifically Fauna uses "Onee-sama" while Euti uses "Ane-ue.")

I COULD HEAR YOUR VOICES PRETTY CLEARLY!
WELL,
I WAS NOT THE ONE WITH SUCH A LOUD VOICE
TO RAISE YOUR VOICE IS SOMETHING ONLY A CHILD WOULD DO
WHAT DID YOU SAY!
PLEASE DON'T BE ANGRY
IT'LL RUIN YOUR CUTE FACE
HMPH! IT'S NOT GOING TO BE RUINED AS MUCH AS YOUR FACE IS
WHAT DID YOU SAY?!
I DIDN'T REALIZE
THAT YOU TWO GOT ALONG SO WELL!
WE AREN'T
Y-YES, OF COURSE WE DO, SIS-TER

I'M HAPPY THAT YOU'RE GETTING ALONG WITH HER, FAWNA
JUSTINIA IS MY NEW LITTLE SISTER, AFTER ALL
SHE'S ONLY JUST COME TO THIS COUNTRY, SO PLEASE TEACH HER EVERYTHING YOU KNOW
TODAY— THAT IS— IS IT ALL RIGHT FOR YOU TO BE HERE, THAT IS—
RIGHT, DON'T YOU HAVE TO NURSE THE KING...?
OF COURSE IT'S ALL RIGHT RIGHT NOW. MOTHER HAS RELIEVED ME AND IS TAKING CARE OF HIM.

She was very cold to Alec, her step-son.
But even though I said that...
Adakshan is different from the empire. And I am an illegitimate child.
They don't have behavior like that in my country!
Even if I don't share any blood with them, the other queens and princesses were nice to me.
...Alec, very naturally, just accepted that behavior.
But I can't accept it!
Hmph!
Queen Azeria...
I apologize, but I must leave for a bit...
I will return soon, so please stay here...
...and enjoy each other's company.
CLOSE

YOU'RE PRETTY SNEAKY FOR ACTING ALL MEEK AND OBEDIENT IN FRONT OF SISTER.
THAT PRETEND BEHAVIOR IS USELESS
I'M SURE SISTER ALREADY FIGURED YOU OUT.
WHO IS THE ONE PRETENDING?!
STOP GETTING AHEAD OF YOURSELF AND LOITERING AROUND SISTER!
YOU HAVE NO RIGHT TO TELL ME THAT!
EVEN THOUGH WE'RE NOT RELATED BY BLOOD,
SISTER AND I
ARE STILL SISTERS!
"SISTERS," WHAT A JOKE!
ACTING LIKE THAT IN SPITE OF YOUR INTENTION TO DECEIVE BOTH SISTER AND HIS MAJESTY!

IT'S RIDICULOUS.
IT MAKES ME FEEL HORRID... THE EMPIRE CASTORIA'S IMPERIAL PRINCESS... THAT YOU CAME TO BE THAT MAN'S BRIDE...
THAT MAN?
...DO YOU MEAN ALEC?
ALL THAT HORRIBLE MAN EVER DOES IS GO TO THE BATTLEFIELDS
HE POSSESSES NOTHING LIKE A HUMAN HEART!
WHO WOULD HAVE THOUGHT HE'D TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE KING'S ILLNESS
HUH?
EVERYONE IS SAYING IT! IT'S HARDLY AFFROPRIATE FOR SOMEONE BORN OF A LOWLY WOMAN TO HAVE THE POSITION OF KING!
THE COLOR OF HIS HAIR, THE COLOR OF HIS EYES... THEY'RE BOTH STRANGE. HE IS NOT ADARSHANA!

HOW CAN YOU CALL MY SISTER, "SISTER" AFTER MARRYING SOMEONE LIKE HIM?
SHUT UP!
"Enjoy each other's company!"
YOU'RE ANNOYING
YOU AREN'T THE IMPERIAL PRINCESS OF THE EMPIRE HERE, YOU KNOW
DON'T ORDER ME AROUND
YOUR HUSBAND BECOMING KING IS SOMETHING THAT I DON'T LIKE TO THINK ABOUT

CRASSSSH
AHHH-HHHH!!!
WELL?

WHY DID YOU FIGHT?
SHE WAS THE YOUNG DAUGHTER OF THE NOBLE GELTOAAK FAMILY, YOU KNOW.
IT WASN'T MY FAULT
THIS BRAT...
WHY DID YOU BRING UP THE SUBJECT TO ME? I'M BUSY HERE, YOU KNOW?
WHATEVER, JUST GO AND APOLOGIZE TO HER!
WHAT! WHY ARE YOU SO CONCEITED!
ANYWAY, DID YOU APOLOGIZE?
PINCH
HUH?
I ONLY FEEL BAD THAT I MISSED
I WANTED TO SMASH THAT HORRIBLE FACE OF HERS

ME?
DIDN'T YOU JUST RECENTLY PICK A FIGHT WITH SOMEONE, TOO?
IS SHE TALKING ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED WITH JERECK?
THAT DOESN'T MATTER!
RIGHT NOW WE'RE TALKING ABOUT YOUR PROBLEM NOT MINE.
I'M NOT APOLOGIZING!
FINE, THEN I'LL GO APOLOGIZE TO HER
NO!
NO NO NO! DON'T GO!
DON'T YOU DARE GO APOLOGIZE TO HER!
AFTER SHE SAID ALL THOSE HORRIBLE THINGS ABOUT YOU...
ENOUGH ALREADY, DON'T...

Those horrible things ?
Ah!
I SEE... FINALLY, THE PUZZLE IS SOLVED...
I'M SORRY.
I can pretty much guess what was said to her
Eun is a stubborn girl,
but when she makes a mistake, she's upright enough to honestly admit it.

YOU'RE WRONG!
YOU DON'T HAVE ANY REASON TO APOLOGIZE FOR ANYTHING!
THE ONE WHO SHOULD APOLOGIZE IS HER!
GOOD GRIEF REALLY...
I ONLY LEFT THE ROOM FOR A BIT.
I SHOULDN'T HAVE TAKEN MY EYES OFF THEM.
IS THIS THE FIRST TIME YOU TWO HAVE MET?
ALEC, THIS GIRL IS FAWNA.

N-NO!
I WOULD LIKE TO APOLOGIZE FOR THE TROUBLE MY WIFE CAUSED YOU
WERE YOU INJURED?
SHE'S ACTUALLY MORE STRAIGHTFORWARD THAN I THOUGHT
WELL, SHE PROBABLY FEELS NERVOUS ABOUT MEETING THE ACTUAL PERSON SHE WAS BADMOUTHING BEHIND THEIR BACK~
BOW

IF YOU DO NOT FORGIVE ME, I WILL CONTINUE KNEELING BEFORE YOU
PLEASE, FORGIVE ME
I-
PLEASE, STOP THIS
UM...
whisper whisper
I forgive you! I forgive you, so stand!
IT'S OVER

IT WAS FINE. SHE'S A MUCH NICER PERSON THAN YOU SAY.
HOW DID IT GO?
YOU CAN SPEAK WITH HER NOW LIKE NOTHING HAPPENED
SHE SAID THAT YOU ARE FOR-GIVEN
...
AS IF I WILL!
I HOPE I DON'T EVER SEE HER AGAIN!

?
tuck tuck
I'M SORRY

Recently,
we keep missing each other.
That it's been so very long
since I felt this warmth and this soft touch.

BLAUKRENT IS PRESENTING A PLAN FOR COMPROMISE?!
EVEN THOUGH WE ALREADY DETERMINED TO WAGE WAR?
YES. IN OTHER WORDS, THE BLAUKRENT SIDE WILL PAY THE AMOUNT OF MONEY THAT WE HAVE REQUESTED.
IF THE KING OF ADARSHAN WILL ALLOW THEM TO BE NOBLES OF THESE REMOTE REGIONS—
IF WE RENOUNCE RESPONSIBILITIES OVER THE INHERITANCE OF GLAREN HUH
The conditions of the conflict's resolution aren't that bad

The most outrageous part of this is the amount of money that's being demanded.
DOES THAT MEAN THAT EVEN IN THAT COUNTRY THERE ARE HUMANS WITH RATIONAL THINKING?
IF THEY SAY THEY WANT TO SETTLE THIS WITH MONEY, WHY DON'T WE LET THEM DO SO?
IT WOULD BE TOO TROUBLESOME TO BRING OUT ARMIES.
I WOULD LIKE TO HAVE A WORD
LORD ELIAS
RESTRAIN YOURSELF! THIS ISN'T A PLACE FOR YOU UNCOUTH YOUNGSTERS TO BE AT
UNDER NORMAL CIRCUMSTANCES, THESE SEATS AREN'T FOR PEOPLE LIKE YOU TO SIT AT
EARL SHRAVER—

Good grief...
IF THE NOBLES ARE INVITED, WE WOULDN'T BE GIVING THEM MERELY SEATS. BUT THE RECOGNITION OF THE SPEECH AND PROPOSALS REGARDING CLAREN
I DON'T THINK THERE'S A PROBLEM
YOU SAY YOU CAN SETTLE THIS SO EASILY.
BUT ISN'T REALITY MUCH MORE DIFFICULT THAN THAT?
THE AMOUNT OF MONEY DEMANDED ISN'T SOMETHING ONE CAN PREPARE IN A SHORT AMOUNT OF TIME.
THOUGH IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT, THAT SHOULD BE ENOUGH
WE AND OTHER LORDS WOULD LIKELY COOPERATE, AND WITH PLEASURE

THAT'S NOT LIKELY TO HAPPEN
BLAUKRENT AND WE, GLAREN, HAVE A DEEP RELATIONSHIP
PEOPLE FROM ONE PLACE OFTEN GO TO VISIT THE OTHER PLACE, AND I SUSPECT THERE IS SOMEONE WHO'S INFORMING BLAUKRENT OF OUR INTERNAL STATE OF AFFAIRS
INSOLENT YOUNGSTERS! T-TO VOICE SUCH FOOLISH SPECULATION!
HOW FOOLISH!
—?
Such an act is suspicious.
HOW COULD THEY BE INFORMED ABOUT OUR STATE OF AFFAIRS?

Could they possibly be stalling for time?
Ar. they trying to negotiate with us after knowing that our King has fallen ill?
It would be all right if they proposed without knowing
But what if they're assuming that the castle has fallen to chaos due to the King's illness?
OF COURSE, SOLVING THE PROBLEM WITHOUT WAGING A WAR IS THE BEST POSSIBLE SOLUTION
NEVERTHELESS,
EVEN IF WE ACCEPT THE DEMAND, IT'S NOT GUARANTEED THAT WE WILL HAVE PEACE
SHUT UP, YOU FOOL!
GLAREN IS A LAND OF DISASTERS!
IF WE WAGE WAR AGAIN, GLAREN'S CONDITION WILL RETURN TO RIOTING LIKE BEFORE!
EARL SHRAVER, YOU SAY TOO MUCH!

LET ME JUST SAY THIS ONE THING CLEARLY TO THE MANY WISE PEOPLE PRESENT HERE TODAY.
clatter
SINCE THE PEOPLE OF GLAREN HAVE SWORN THEIR UNDYING LOYALTY TO OUR KING,
WE CANNOT PUT THEM IN DANGER WITHOUT A REASONABLE JUSTIFICATION LIKE THAT
chatter
THE ROYAL FAMILY, YOU SAY?
CLENCH
CAN SOMEONE WHO'S NOT ALLOWED TO SUCCEED THE THRONE CALL HIMSELF A PART OF THE ROYAL FAMILY?
OR DO YOU THINK THE THRONE IS ALREADY IN YOUR HANDS?
THE ROYAL FAMILY WILL NOT BETRAY THEIR LOYALTY!
EARL SHRAVER!
I WILL NOT APPROVE OF IT.
I WILL NOT APPROVE OF ANY SUCH THING AS AN ILLEGITIMATE PRINCE TAKING THE THRONE.

I hope you get what's coming to you!
I thought that it would come to be like this someday,
that after all your ingratitude, you would aim for the throne - you're nothing but a thief.
There's no way I'd approve of that shameless man!
I WILL NOT APPROVE OF IT!
...IF THAT'S WHAT THE KING WISHES.

WHEN I WAS YOUNG, I WAS AFRAID THAT MY STEPMOTHER HATED ME.
YOUR HIGHNESS?
BECAUSE I WAS AFRAID THAT I WOULD BE THROWN AWAY- THAT I WOULD LOSE THE PLACE WHERE I BELONG.
DESPITE THE ABUSE, I WAS STILL OBEDIENT.
I HAVE ALWAYS, ALWAYS BEEN AFRAID

BUT THERE IS NO NEED TO BE AFRAID OF ANYTHING ANYMORE
FOR WHOSE SAKE AM I HERE?
I SUPPOSE ALL OF YOU ARE AWARE OF MY STANDING HERE
MY ANSWER IS DECIDED
HOWEVER, I MUST DO WHAT THE KING HIMSELF WOULD DO
EVEN WITHOUT HIS INSTRUCTIONS, I HAVE NO INTENTION OF STEPPING BACK DOWN
NONSENSE!
TO BEGIN WITH, IF THE KING WERE NOT ILL, THEN THIS...
EXCUSE MY INTERRUPTION

...HAS RETURNED TO CONSCIOUSNESS!
BROTHER!
TO THOSE OF THE ADVISORY COUNCIL, AND TO THOSE WHO SUBMIT TO THEIR JURISDICTION,
I WOULD LIKE TO HEREBY DECLARE MY RECOVERY FROM ILLNESS,
AND ANNOUNCE THE UNDOING OF THOSE AFOREMENTIONED DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES
MY WISH IS TO HASTILY BEGIN THE DISSOLUTION OF THESE PARTIES,
AND I WISH TO EXPRESS GRATITUDE FROM MY HEART TO THE EFFORTS AND ASSISTANCE FROM THE LORDS WHO HAVE GIVEN IT
BROTHER...

WHAT IN THE WORLD ARE YOU DOING HERE?
EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE STILL IN CONVALES-CENCE—
WHY ISN'T HE SLEEPING?
GET OUT.
GET LOST AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
SEEING YOUR FACE IRRITATES ME.
WH...

Did I make Brother angry?
Ah...
I apologize...
That's right...
As soon as Brother fell to his sickbed I just did whatever I wanted without consulting anyone...
But the reason I claimed my inheritance of the throne
Wasn't because I wanted to be king
I simply wanted to protect
The things that Brother has worked so hard to build but...
I acknowledge your displeasure with my actions
...I await my punishment
If that's what the king wishes...

I WOULD LIKE YOU TO TELL ME WHAT CRIME I SHOULD CHARGE YOU WITH!
HUH?
IF I COULD PUNISH YOU, I WOULD HAVE ALREADY DONE IT.
PUNISH-MENT?
CRUNCH
YOU MEAN THE INCIDENT WHERE YOU ANNOUNCED YOURSELF AS THE INHERITOR OF THE THRONE? THAT'S OBVIOUS
IT ONLY FOLLOWS FROM THE HIERARCHY THAT YOU WOULD HAVE HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO DO IT

OF COURSE I DON'T
BROTHER DO YOU FEEL ALL RIGHT NOW?
THAT'S WHY I DON'T WANT TO SEE YOUR FACE RIGHT NOW.
HUH? THEN HE'S JUST TAK-ING IT OUT ON ME?

DIDN'T I SAY THAT I DON'T WANT TO SEE YOUR FACE RIGHT NOW?
YOU DISGUST ME.
IF YOU DON'T FEEL WELL, HOW ABOUT RETURNING TO YOUR ROOM?
SHUT UP, YOU IDIOT.
HE'S TOTALLY TAKING IT OUT ON ME.
RIGHT. FOR BROTHER, TO SHOW WEAKNESS IS SOMETHING THAT HE CAN'T HANDLE.
THOUGH AN ILLNESS IS SOMETHING THAT CAN'T BE HELPED,
THOUGH LIKE FATE, THERE'S NOTHING HE CAN DO ABOUT IT, BUT STILL...

My stupid brother
That idiot
Who told you to work on these documents?
You really are an idiot. Is this a situation where you should worry about other people?
After this incident, it's so easy for him to turn into a prince without any supporters behind him.
They realized he was the perfect person to make the dummy king.

I DON'T CARE ABOUT THOSE DOC-UMENTS.
THAT LITTLE BROTHER OF MINE HAS AL-WAYS BEEN LIKE THIS
I ALWAYS TRY TO KEEP A DISTANCE FROM HIM BECAUSE I DON'T WANT HIM TO CATCH MY ILLNESS...
BUT INSTEAD HE ALWAYS STUCK CLOSE BY. LOOKING WORRIED
With him being like that, he can't completely avoid the shadows that keep following him
That's why he's such an idiot
Why does he have to destroy all the groundwork that I've spent so much time and efforts on laying down all this time?
And the shadows will continue to grow.
And now that he's made it clear to everyone that he can be of use to them, that idiot can't run away from the people who're trying to take advantage of him
CRUNCH

shake
shake
I THINK YOU ARE ALREADY AWARE OF WHY YOU WERE CALLED HERE

That which will save th. Black Demon Alexid is not this castle
...but the battlefield, where his life is on the line.

A soldier who has struck a superior officer, at best, is punished with military discharge.
At worst, he is charged with a capital crime. But...
YES
YOU'VE DONE A FOOLISH THING
Huh?
DEAD DRUNK...?
JERECK GEAR,
I CHARGE YOU WITH NEGLIGENCE, INSUBORDINATION, AND FOR BEING DEAD DRUNK
HAVE YOU ALREADY FORGOTTEN? WHAT GOOD MEMORY YOU HAVE
LOOKS LIKE YOU DIDN'T SUFFER THAT MUCH WHILE STAYING IN AN ISOLATED CELL UNTIL YESTERDAY
YOUR SENTENCE IS FINALLY SERVED. I WILL NOW LIFT THE RESTRICTIONS PUT ON YOU.
AND I HOPE THAT YOU WON'T REPEAT YOUR ERROR IN THE FUTURE.
UNDER-STOOD!

WAS IT REALLY BECAUSE HE WAS DRUNK?
UDOLIEL, YOU SHOULD TRY DRINKING SOMETIME, TOO
HE GETS QUITE VIOLENT WHEN HE'S DRUNK
I SEE. YOU'VE NEVER HAD A DRINK WITH HIM BEFORE
THE BRUISES LOOKED LIKE YOU WERE INVOLVED IN A FISTFIGHT WITH HIM
UDOLIEL ELGART, I HEREBY NOMINATE YOU AS A COMMANDER OF OUR ARMY
A NOTICE OF PERSONNEL CHANGE
I DO NOT WISH TO HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY LIKE THAT, I THINK
AH, RIGHT I HAVE A FEW OTHER TASKS TO COMPLETE

I don't care even if he hates me or holds a grudge against me
This time, definitely, I will protect this country, the King, and everything—
I was once taken under the wing of Samael, a powerful soldier,
though I hadn't realized his true nature
I WOULD LIKE YOU TO BECOME MY SUBORDINATE
However... Samael is not here anymore.

I ACCEPT THIS OFFICIAL APPOINTMENT WITH THANKS, PRINCE ALEXIS
WHEW—
WHAT ARE YOU SO NERVOUS ABOUT?
NOT REALLY.
HMM YOU'RE DOING SOMETHING OUT OF CHARACTER.
DEAD DRUNK, HUH? DEAD DRUNK YOU HAD TO GO WITH THAT EXPLANATION.
ARE YOUR DRINKING HABITS ALSO NOT HORRID, MY PRINCE?
...

Even when I was young, Fred was very fussy whenever I was injured.
GRIND
WHEN YOU ARE HARMED, SO IS MY NAME!
ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT THE NIGHT WHEN I HAD A FISTFIGHT WITH JEREEK IN THE FENCING AREA?
ARE YOU STILL ANGRY ABOUT THAT?
"The only ones that you should fight are the ones where you absolutely can't end up injured!"
"Don't get into fights!"
I HAVE THE FEELING THAT I MADE A MISTAKE SOMEWHERE.
DIDN'T I SAY SORRY ALREADY?
Well, but the only exception is the battlefield.

YOU DON'T LOOK APOLOGETIC AT ALL YOUR HIGHNESS IS ALWAYS JUST ALL TALK
STOP ALREADY WITH THE WEIRD POLITE SPEECH
DAMN. DON'T GET CAUGHT UP IN THE MOMENT
IF THAT'S THE WAY HE'S GOING TO ACT, THEN I'LL JUST IGNORE HIM
CLICK
ALEC! CAN I COME IN?
SORRY FOR BOTHERING YOU. I'LL GO BACK

WHAT WERE YOU PLAYING? LET'S DO SOMETHING TOGETHER
ARE YOU PLANNING SOMETHING?
WELL, OKAY, TODAY LET'S READ A BOOK.
!?
ISN'T THAT BOOK A LITTLE DIFFICULT?
WAH!
WELL, WAIT.
IT'S ALL RIGHT IF YOU STAY HERE LET'S TAKE A BREAK
FRED WILL DO US A FAVOR AND MAKE US SOME TEA
PERFECT. THIS WILL GIVE ME A CHANCE TO ESCAPE FROM THIS MOOD FOR A LITTLE

ARE YOU COMPETING WITH THAT YOUNG LADY AGAIN?
DON'T MAKE FUN OF ME! IF FAWNA CAN READ IT, THEN I CAN, TOO!
UM, GOOD IDEA!
READ IT OUT LOUD?
IF THERE ARE PLACES YOU CAN'T READ, THEN I'LL TEACH YOU HOW
READ IT FROM THE BEGINNING
It's warm...
He thought he was not a person suitable for the light.
The savage tribes that came to live in a world of shadows... Kesterelg knew light for the first time since he was born...

What has been lost to me has returned...
With a different appear-ance ..
With a different shape...

GOOD GRIEF, HE TOLD ME TO READ IT, BUT NOW HE'S SOUND ASLEEP
And in this warmth...
WHAT A WIMP NO MATTER HOW BORING YOUR READING WAS, HE SHOULDN'T HAVE—
IT WASN'T BORING!
NO. THE PROBLEM ISN'T THE READING.
IT'S JUST THAT THIS GUY LACKS THE QUALITY THAT'S NEEDED TO ENJOY BOOKS.
ANYWAY, WOULD YOU LIKE SOME TEA?
SURE!

THE COLD WINTER IS OVER, ALEC
A NEW CURTAIN IS OPENING
END

The bride
of
Adarshan

SHORT STORY

A Small Wish

WHAM
It's so cold!
TAP
TAP
TAP
WHAM WHAM WHAM WHAM
SHE'S HERE
eyes open
CAN YOU PLEASE OPEN THE DOOR FASTER?
I'M FREEZING TO DEATH!
...

Alec and I are part of a so-called political marriage
It's already been a few days since I've married into the neighboring kingdom, Adarshan
It's really cold tonight and if you don't warm up, you'll catch a cold!
But Alec is still really shy and he hardly ever approaches me
pat
pat
pat
"Come here" signal
Alec, are you listening to me?!
I am
That reminds me, sister is really worried about you!
Why don't you go see her once in a while?
blah blah
Anyway, weren't sister's tea cookies delicious again today?
They taste so good with the tea Fred makes
blah
blah
blah
blah
blah
blah
They say that the time you spend as a newlywed is really important, but

BONK
There
Phew
ARE YOU FINALLY ASLEEP?
YOU... YOU HARD-HEADED !!!
I'LL CHASE YOU OUT OF MY ROOM!
This is why I hate kids!
YOU CAN'T EVEN TAKE A SMALL JOKE FROM YOUR WIFE? HOW BORING.
WHEN YOU WERE LITTLE, ALEC, WHAT KIND OF GAMES DID YOU PLAY?

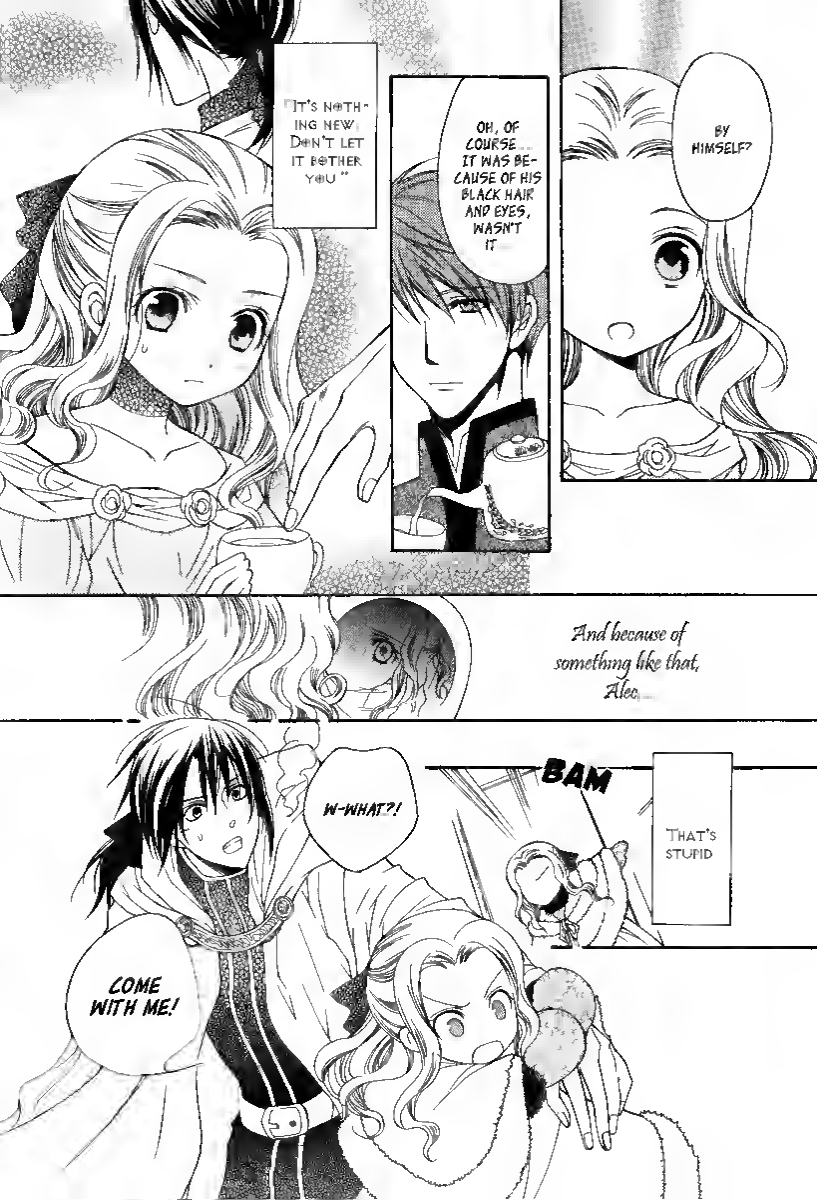
I JUST PLAYED NORMAL GAMES
ARE YOU PLANNING SOME-THING?
DON'T MAKE IT SOUND LIKE I'M A BAD PERSON
I'M JUST IN-TERESTED ON A PERSONAL LEVEL!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY NORMAL?!
ARE YOU SATISFIED? I'M GOING TO SLEEP
YOU'RE ALWAYS SO CURT!
DO YOU WANT TO FIGHT?
She's learned some weird saying again

CLANG!
THANK YOU VERY MUCH, SIR.
AD
Sa-mael.

ALEC!
run
run
run
run
run
IS YOUR SWORD PRACTICE FINISHED?
DID YOU GO TO MY SISTER'S CHAMBER AGAIN?
HMM
YOUR TEACHER JUST PASSED AWAY, BUT YOU DON'T SEEM LIKE YOU CARE AT ALL

TYPICAL OF THE BLACK DEMON, TO BE SO COLD-HEARTED
I FELT THE SAME WAY
!
NONE OF YOU KNOW ANY-THING!!!
IT'S NO-THING NEW DON'T LET IT BOTHER YOU
I'm no better than them, but still
You're Nana's enemy!
There's no such thing as a person who isn't wounded by malice
NOTHING NEW?
THEY CALL HIM THE BLACK DEMON, BUT HE'S A HUMAN

WHEN ALEC WAS YOUNG...?
UH-HUH.
WELL... HE LIKED TO CAUSE MISCHIEF.
I THOUGHT SO.
BUT REALLY, LIKE NOW, HE'S ALWAYS BEEN A VERY OBEDIENT CHILD.
THANK YOU, FRED.
He was always smiling.
WHAT!
THOUGH HE WAS ALWAYS PLAYING BY HIMSELF


"It's nothing new. Don't let it bother you."
Oh, of course... It was because of his black hair and eyes, wasn't it...
By himself?
And because of something like that, Alec...
Bam
That's stupid
W-what?!
Come with me!

What the hell is this princess thinking this time
UNDER THIS WINTER SKY!
TODAY, ALEC, WE ARE GOING TO PLAY TO OUR HEART'S CONTENT...
ONCE IN A WHILE IT'S GOOD TO ACT LIKE A CHILD!
falls apart
AH!
LISTEN
IRRITATED
IT'S NOT GOING SO WELL
AH!
There we go!
...IT'S SO COLD!
YOU'LL WARM UP IF YOU MOVE AROUND!

YOU'RE PRETTY GOOD AT THIS, AREN'T YOU?
HUFF
I MADE THESE A LOT WHEN I WAS YOUNG.
YOU IDIOT. IF YOU WANT TO MAKE A SNOWMAN,
YOU HAVE TO ROLL THE SNOW LIKE THIS
OOH!
THEN I'LL LEAVE THE MAIN PART TO YOU!
I'LL CONCENTRATE ON THE DECORATIONS!
I knew it was going to be like this.
OH, WHAT'S THAT?

THE IMPERIAL PRINCESS?
HIS HIGHNESS THE BLACK DEMON AND
WHAT IS IT?
YOUR HIGHNESS YOUR HIGHNESS
THERE'S SOMETHING INTERESTING TO BE SEEN OUTSIDE!
OH?
IT'S COMPLETE!

THE FINISHED PRODUCT IS WONDERFUL! THIS IS ART!
phew
...IS IT?
YOU KNOW YOU WERE ENJOYING YOURSELF,
...
MORE THAN THE STUPID AND WORTHLESS RUMORS...
WHAT?
ISN'T IT BETTER TO CREATE CONCRETE MEMORIES LIKE THIS?

MEMORIES WILL NEVER DISAPPEAR.
NEVER EVER.
YOU'RE NOT CUTE AT ALL!
IT'LL MELT EVENTUALLY, THOUGH
I GUESS SO.
Like the snow that's falling and piling up...
A little bit at a time...
A little bit at a time...

THIS IS COMPLETELY IDIOTIC, BUT,
THAT BIG CHILD,
TOGETHER WITH THAT LITTLE CHILD,
THEY MAKE A VERY APPROPRIATE SCENE...
Stop re
I said quie
I'm going to divorce you!
Hey, you're breaking it! Stop getting in the way!
Let's go and make new memories together,
"Cold-hearted Alec"
IT BECAME SOMETHING THAT GATHERED MUCH ATTENTION FROM VISITORS
Wah!
How remarkable
THE COMPLETED SNOWMAN RECEIVED GLOVES BLESSED BY THE QUEEN, BESTOWED MUCH HONOR, AND STOOD IN THE ENTRANCE TO THE ROYAL PALACE.

Short Story END

Sorry, Amekawa sensei.

This has no relation to the original story (Made by Kazaeo Nori)

Omake manga

AND THE LEFT IS THE MOTHER
THE ONES IN THE MIDDLE ARE THE CHILDREN.
THE ONE ON THE RIGHT IS THE FATHER.
UMMM...
IDIOT.
IF YOU ONLY LISTEN TO THEIR CONVERSATION, IT SOUNDS LIKE A HUSBAND-AND-WIFE TALK
YOU'RE AT IT EVERY SINGLE DAY! ARE YOU TRYING TO KILL ME OF EXHAUSTION!!!
I have other work to do!!
MAKE MORE CHILDREN, ALEC!
AS I THOUGHT, IT'S LONELY IF THERE ARE ONLY TWO CHILDREN.

RAWR
Why won't you release the next chapter?!
Can I help you?
What can I do to help?
Fan Girl
It's not like YOU helped out any.
We don't have enough translators or editors
Find us some translators and editors and you'll have your next chapter
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